pire's activities. For example, of the many theories advanced to account for the origin of the Hakkas, that distinct group of Chinese in Kwangsi, Kwangtung, Kiangsi, and Fukien, one of the more credible declares that during this period they came from the region south of the Yellow River. Certainly other evidence points to population movements from north to south during the Sung and to an increase in the number of walled cities south of the Yangtze. It is significant that some of the greatest figures of the dynasty, notably Wang An-shih and Chu Hsi, were bora south of the great river, the one in the present Kiangsi and the other in the present Fukien. Never before had so much of the leadership of the Empire come from natives of that region.

FOREIGN COMMERCE UNDER THE SUNG

With so much of the North in the hands of aliens and with the southward shift of the center of Chinese population and culture, it is not strange that there was much foreign commerce from the ports on the south coast. This had suffered, it will be recalled, in the disorders at the close of the Tang. Under the Sung it revived and seems to have attained larger proportions than ever before. Navigation was aided by the employment of the compass for sailing and improvement in ship-building. The Chinese now, for the first time, controlled the sea routes to the southeast and India. What is now Ch'iianchow (known to Medieval Europe as Zaitun) in Fukien and Canton (known in some foreign writings of the time as Khanfu, although the identification of Khanfu with Canton is not universally accepted by sinologists) were usually the chief centers of this trade. Canton at first had most of it, but Ch'iian-

chow presently became a formidable rival and eventually was predominant. For a time the Sung continued the T'ang practice of placing the control of shipping and trade under one officer and his subordinates. Later special functionaries for this purpose were appointed. Commerce in some commodities was a government monopoly, open only to licensed vendors, who obtained their goods at state warehouses. The state derived a valuable revenue from an *ad valorem* tax on the trade. Early in the Sung an imperial embassy was sent abroad to encourage foreign merchants to come to China and special licenses were promised them.

The Sung was comparatively mild in its treatment of foreign